

Family Favors Second 'Will' Of Woolworth

Incomplete Document Will Be Followed as Far as Possible in Distribution of Estate, Say Relatives

\$30,000,000 to Widow

Because of Incompetency Changes Are Planned to Make Charity Bequests

No complications are expected in the distribution of the estate of Frank W. Woolworth by reason of a will that was unfinished at his death, and which made provisions other than those contained in his will made thirty years ago.

Mr. Woolworth, who died practically sole owner of the tallest building in the world and the largest stockholder in the corporation owning nearly 1,000,000 shares of stock, died on July 1, 1880, when he was a small merchant.

In this instrument he left his entire estate to his wife, Mrs. Jennie Woolworth. Only a few months after Mr. Woolworth was declared mentally incompetent by a sheriff's jury, her property and affairs now being controlled by Hubert T. Parson, as her committee.

Mr. Parson is vice-president and general manager of the F. W. Woolworth Company.

The unfinished draft of the document which Mr. Woolworth intended to make his last will, but which he had not fully approved before his death or executed, makes numerous bequests to charitable institutions, to friends and relatives, business associates and employees.

Estate More Than \$30,000,000. It is understood that the estate of the merchant will amount to between \$30,000,000 and \$40,000,000.

Charles E. F. McCann, a son-in-law, announced that the intentions of Mr. Woolworth, as expressed in the paper left incomplete by his unexpected death, will be carried out by his family in so far as it is possible to do under the decedent's estate law.

"I desire to say that the family will carry out Mr. Woolworth's intentions as they are expressed in the last document," said Mr. McCann. "We are not prepared to make public the contents of either will. The matter is a personal one, but we shall see that his wishes are respected."

There is one possible obstacle to the plans of Mr. Woolworth's family. That is the will which it is understood Mrs. Woolworth has made.

To Arrange Settlement. It is likely that she has left some of her estate to blood relatives, which property now must include the estate that will come to her from Mr. Woolworth. In these circumstances, it will be necessary to make terms with these relatives, and the estate will be subject to the distribution of the large estate of Mr. Woolworth according to his wishes, rather than in conformity with the only legal formula in existence.

Mrs. Woolworth would be well protected. As in the estate of Mrs. Ida J. Flagler, an incompetent, whose income from a trust of \$100,000 and \$100,000 dollars is greater than is required for her care and comfort, application could be made, if needed by relatives of Mrs. Woolworth, that part of her income be paid to them.

That Mr. Woolworth had in mind the making of a new will and a different distribution of his estate than is provided in the will which he made is indicated when he had his wife's dowry interest in his estate judicially computed a few months ago. Whatever share goes to Mrs. Woolworth, it will have to be placed in the hands of her committee, Hubert T. Parson.

Parson Probable Administrator. Mrs. Woolworth was also named as sole executrix in the will of her husband. Because of her legal status she will be unable to qualify in this capacity. Therefore, the procedure likely to be followed will be an application by Mr. Parson to the Surrogate's Court for the issuance of letters of administration with the will annexed. The application will be made in Minerva, Nassau County, where Mr. Woolworth died, and it is probable that Mr. Parson will be one of the administrators.

Mr. Parson, who is associated with Mr. Woolworth for many years, is vice-president and general manager of the F. W. Woolworth Company. For three years he has conducted the affairs of the corporation, and has been in the management of the company since the death of the man who, because of illness, had not taken an active part in the management of the company for many years.

The nominating committee of the directors will hold its annual meeting on May 15, and it is probable that Mr. Parson will be elected, as he is the logical successor of Mr. Woolworth. The findings of the committee will be submitted to the stockholders at a meeting on the third Wednesday in May.

Stores' Policy Unaffected. Mr. Parson made it known yesterday that the death of Mr. Woolworth and the distribution of his estate would in no way change the management of the policy of the 5 and 10 cent stores scattered throughout the United States and Canada, with some in England. Also the present head of the corporation wanted it known that, widely circulated probably without understanding, there was not a dollar of foreign capital invested in the Woolworth Building, which is controlled by the Woolworth Park Place Company.

"Mr. Woolworth had made the sole owner of the building," said Mr. Parson. "This edifice cost, with the interest value, about \$1,000,000. With the increased value of the building, it now has a much greater value. Just what is its real value under present real estate and building conditions, Mr. Parson did not say, but he ventured even a guess. Besides, Mr. Parson was authorized for the statement that the world famous structure which Mr. Woolworth erected as his monument has no indebtedness against it, standing free and clear."

His Ambition Realized. "Was this ambition realized? It was, and there is today not a cent of indebtedness on the building. Mr. Woolworth owned it practically outright."

Mr. Parson explained how the incompetent had invested in the property. When Mr. Woolworth was dying, he was planning for the erection of the building.

Woman Selects Help For Five Big Hotels

"It Is Just Like Moving Pawns on a Chess Board," Says Miss E. M. Woods

Miss E. M. Woods is holding down a man's and a woman's job at the same time in her capacity of employment manager for the Biltmore, Commodore, Ansonia, Manhattan, Belmont and Murray Hill hotels.

She picks every one from scrubmen to managers, and is an adept at knowing Bolsheviks and strikers at sight. In the course of the month she gives the "once over" to anywhere from 1,500 to 2,000 men and women.

"I'm a university woman," said Miss Woods. "Four years covers my period of employment experience. I used to do this work for the Association of Stock Exchange Firms. Then I took it over for Mr. Bowman's string of hotels. I speak French, German and some Italian, and I can pick out an agitator at sight. Success in this sort of work lies in one's ability to estimate character and classify type. I find it fascinating. I feel as if I have a great big chess board in front of me and am continually putting the pawns where they belong."

French capitalists sent a representative here with an offer of \$750,000 capital toward the consummation of the enterprise. The over-ambitious French agent had no doubt about the success of his mission. He gave out stories to newspapers that read as follows: "The Frenchman reckoned without Mr. Woods. The merchant wanted no outside capital."

Mr. Woods left two daughters, Mrs. Helena W. McCann of 3 West Eleventh Street, and Mrs. Jessie W. Donahue, of 6 East Eighty-third Street. While they will receive a large part of this estate, they are not to be in their own right. Another daughter, Mrs. Edna W. Hutton, died about two years ago from suffocation in her apartment at Hotel Plaza. She left a young daughter, who also will be well provided for.

The sons-in-law of Mr. Woods will confer, in the course of the week, with the attorneys of the decedent to determine the next procedure in the carrying out of his wishes and the administration of his estate.

Edward V. Brophy Named Warden of Sing Sing Prison

Former Police Judge at Port Chester Appointed to Succeed Moyer; Will Be No Immediate Changes

OSSENING, April 14.—Former Judge Edward V. Brophy, of Port Chester, well known in Westchester County politics, was appointed warden of Sing Sing this afternoon by Superintendent of Prisons Charles F. Rattigan. Mr. Brophy will succeed William H. Moyer, who leaves tomorrow.

The new warden said he would continue the Mutual Welfare League for the time being, at least, and will not attempt to introduce radical changes. He is a believer in rational prison reform. Speaking of his plans to-day he said:

"I believe prisoners are human beings and should be treated as such. I believe in being humane and treating them fairly, and I believe in the behavior of a prisoner misbehaves, I believe in a more stern treatment. I have no fads, but I believe prisoners should be permitted plenty of athletic exercise."

State Prison Inquiry Is to Follow Naming Of Two New Wardens

ALBANY, April 14.—With the appointment to-day of Edward S. Brophy, of Port Chester, as Warden of Sing Sing Prison to succeed William S. Moyer, and of Colonel Edgar R. Jennings, of the 27th Division, as warden of Auburn Prison, the investigation of the conditions of the state will begin in earnest.

Governor Smith, at the beginning of his term, announced that he intended to have a thorough investigation of the state prisons following reports of inhuman treatment of convicts and trafficking in drugs and liquor, particularly at Sing Sing.

After Charles F. Rattigan was named as Superintendent of Prisons the following committee was chosen to conduct the inquiry under his supervision: Adolph Lovensolm, Mrs. Helen Hartly Jenkins, John S. Kennedy, Bishop David H. Greer, all of New York, and Adelbert Root, of Buffalo. The committee has just organized, with Mr. Lovensolm as chairman, and will begin work immediately.

Although Warden Moyer resigned, he did so only after it was known that he was slated to go, and the appointment of his successor, Mr. Brophy, who is a close friend of Michael D. Walsh, State Tax Commissioner and Democratic leader of Westchester County, follows a period of political wire pulling.

Miller Not a Candidate Syracuse Ex-Judge Won't Seek Governorship Nomination

SYRACUSE, April 13.—Former Judge Nathan L. Miller will not be a candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor. This is the word his closest friends have conveyed to Republican leaders here with the request that they drop the idea of campaigning. The leaders have been told that while Judge Miller appreciated the efforts that were being made to get him elected, he could make the sacrifice. In spite of his attitude there is a tendency here to keep the boom going.

Prizes Offered to Authors Writers of Best Fiction During 1919 To Be Given Awards

The two American authors who published during 1919 what the Society of Arts and Sciences believes are the best two short stories of the year will receive a \$500 and \$250 respectively when the award is announced January 1, 1920.

Hotels when in SPRINGFIELD Mass. go to Hotel BRIDGWAY

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Seder Feast Turned Into Victory Fete For Jewish Troops

Passover Celebration Opened by Special Services of Thanks for Victories Against the Germans

Thousands of Jewish soldiers and sailors throughout the United States began the observance of Passover last night in Jewish Welfare Board huts and centers. The "Seder" feast, which marks the opening of the eight-day celebration commemorating the liberation of the Jewish people from Egyptian bondage, was turned into a feast to mark the liberation of the world from Teutonic despotism.

With prominent rabbis officiating Seder Services were held in Jewish Welfare Board buildings in every camp in the country and at all Jewish community centers. The ceremonies were held on the eighth night of the celebration, which was held in the Jewish Welfare Board building in New York City.

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Drama "Bonds of Interest" Given by Theatre Guild at the Garrick

By Heywood Brown

The first production of the Theatre Guild is always agreeable and often something much more stirring than the "Bonds of Interest" is a type of dramatic entertainment rarely to be met on the stage. It may best be described as a poetic farce-comedy. Not since "The Bonds of Interest" have we had such a play.

From the point of view of dramatic effect it was evident that all concerned had brought enthusiasm to the work in hand. In some cases this fervor was translated into beautiful results. In other cases the results were not so beautiful, unless one is disposed to accept sincerity itself as a treasure to his hand to the scenery and costumes and made them exquisite. Perhaps nothing in the performance is quite so more than one production in New York, or perhaps two, has ever brought such beauty to the stage. Only the sets of Robert Jones in "The Jest" are so beautiful as those of Peters, and no such effect has been achieved in any other production in New York.

The "Bonds of Interest" is a fragile, fast-moving play, a little pensive. It is a difficult play to see. There is never a chance for a player to set his teeth to a situation and worry it. Now there is no exception. Polychrome brings to the play a touch of light and as sure as Peter's brought to the painting of the scenery, but there is no exception. Polychrome brings to the play a touch of light and as sure as Peter's brought to the painting of the scenery, but there is no exception.

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